Scott. 11-27—60,004—17-11-48.

Food & Agriculture (1950) Department.

Ms. SERIES.

G.O. NO. 696

Dated 10 — 4 — 50

Passed
10
Suphdt

[Despatch Abstract.]

Rationing — Rural — South Kanara Dt.
Printing of ration cards by the local press
cost of card boards - sanctioned.

BOARD OF REVENUE (CIVIL SUPPLIES)
SUBJECT:

Rationing - Rural - South Kanara District - Printing of ration cards by the local press - Cost of card-boards - Sanction - Requested.

Board's Ref. 141853-U4/48 (CS) dated 15-3-50.

From

R.O MS no 696 Fowdon dt 10.4.50
18734

SRI V.S. HEJMADI, I.C.S.,
COMMISSIONER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES.

JANAB G. ABDUL SATTAR, B.A.,
PROVINCIAL CONTROLLER OF FOOD RATIONING.

In October 1948, when informal rationing, was decided to be introduced in South Kanara district, instructions were issued to the Collector of South Kanara to take priliminary steps for the introduction of informal rationing and to get the ration cards printed locally. As the Collector had no time then to indent and get the card-boards for printing the ration cards from the Superintendent of Stationery, Madras, he placed an order with the Karnataka Printers and Publishers Ltd., Mangalore for printing 3 lakhs of ration cards after procuring the cardboards wherever they could.

The Press had completed the work and had applied for the payment of the following charges:-

	Rs.	a.	p.
Cost of 90 gross of cardboards at Rs.45/- per gross	4,050	0	0
Packing and forwarding charges	150	0	0
Freight and coolly	130	0	0
Travelling expenses incurred for Bombay and Madras trips for procuring cards	596	12	0
Add sales tax on Rs. 4050/-	63	4	0
Total	4,990	0	0

2) The Superintendent, Government Press and the Superintendent of Stationery, Madras were consulted as to the reasonable charges that can be paid to the printer. The Superintendent, Government Press intimated in his letter C. Miscellaneous dated 21-7-49 that 87 gross cards and 97 sheets of the size 22" x 28" might have been utilised by the printer for printing 3 lakhs of ration cards and that the reasonable price of Rs. 24/- per gross might be allowed. The Superintendent of Stationery informed in his letter No. I. 2297/49 dated 9-4-49 that the packing, freight charges etc., claimed by the printer were excessive and that these charges might be allowed if proper vouchers were produced; he however, recommended the payment of the sales tax on the cost of the cardboards payable to the printer. When the printer was asked to produce the vouchers for the incidental charges claimed by him, he replied that he had not maintained any vouchers for these payments.

3) When the matter was still under correspondence, Sri K. Dayananda Shenoy, Ex-Secretary of the Karnataka Printers and Publishers Ltd., filed a petition against the printers alleging that the printers were claiming exhorbitant rates and they were committing fraud against the Government, by claiming expenses which they had not actually incurred. The District Superintendent of Police, Mangalore, who was asked to investigate the alleged fraud, has reported that no criminal offence has been committed by the printer and that no action can be taken against the press for the alleged fraud against Government. The investigation, however, disclosed that the cardboards were procured by the press locally and not outside as claimed by the printer and that the incidental charges claimed by him were not actually paid.

4) The printer has now to be paid the cost of the cardboards utilised for printing the ration cards i.e. Rs. 2104-2-8 and sales tax Rs. 32-14-0 (Rs.2137-1-0 in all). The Charges for printing the cards

P.T.O.

were sanctioned by the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras and a contingent bill for Rs. 1125/- was already sent to the printer. As an alternati to the payment of the cost of the boards, the printer was offered supply of c boards from the stocks with the Superintendent of Stationery, Madras but the printer was not willing to accept the card boards as, according to him, there was no immediate use for them.

5) According to the instructions in the Printing Manual, the purchase of paper, cardboards etc., in the open market for printing Government work is prohibited and the sanction of the Government is necessary for such purchases. As the ration cards had to be made available to the public within a very short period and as there was no time to indent and get the cardboards from the Superintendent of Stationery, the Collector had to order the printing of ration cards on cardboards procured in the open market. Had this not been done, the printing of ration cards might have been delayed and the introduction of informal rationing post-poned causing much inconvenience to the public. In view of the extraordinary circumstances under which the Collector was forced to act, the Board recommends that the Government may be pleased to accord sanction for the payment of a sum of Rs. 2137-1-0 (Rupees two thousand one hundred and thrity seven and anna one only) to the Karnataka Printers and Publishers Ltd., Mangalore.

6) Copies of the South Kanara Collector's C.No.21475/48 P1 dated 22-12-48, Superintendent Government Press's letter No. C. Mis. dated 21.7.49, letter No. I.2297/49 dated 8-4-49 and Collector's Ref. C.No. 21475/48 P.1. dated 3-3-50 are enclosed.

17.3.50

For PROVINCIAL CONTROLLER OF FOOD RATIONING

17.3.50

To

The Secretary to Government,
Food and Agriculture Department,
Fort St. George, Madras (with enclosure)

V.R. 16-3.

Copy of letter Ref.C.No. 21475/48 P1 dated 22-12-48 From the ~~Collector~~, Collector of South Kanara, Mangalore., to The Secretar Food Department, Government of Madras, Madras, through the Secretary the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Board of Revenue, Madras.

Sub:- Rationing - Informal - South Kanara District - Printing of ration cards - Cost of cardboards - Sanction - requested

Ref:- 1) Board's Ref. No. 134111/44/48 dated 15-11-48
2) Letter No. Comp/Misc. dated 23-11-48 from the Supt. Government Press, Madras.

I enclose a copy of my letter Ref.C.No. 21475/48-P1 dated 18-11-48 the Superintendent Government Press and of his reply No. Comp/Misc dated 23-11-48. As the printing had to be got through with top speed, I was forced to order the Press to print out cards after making an all net endeavour to procure cardboards from whenever they could be procured.

2. The Press-Karnataka Printers and Publishers Ltd., Mangalore claims Rs. 4990/0/ as shown below towards the cost of cardboards purchased for the printing of the 3 lakhs of cards.

Cost of 90 gross of ~~cardboards~~ pott. cards @ Rs. 45/- per gross	Rs.	4050	0 0
Packing and forwarding charges	Rs.	150	0 0
Freight and cooly	Rs.	130	0 0
Travelling expenses incurred for Bombay and Madras Trips by the Secretary for procuring cards	Rs.	596	12 0
Add sales tax on Rs. 4050/-	Rs.	63	4 0
Total		4990	0 0

The Press says that it has no immediate use for cardboards and that it does not require replacement of cardboards used by it for printing the cards.

3. This was the only Press in Mangalore which showed some willingness to undertake the printing and help me get through the work with the urgency and speed required. The other Presses were reluctant to undertake the work, as they seem to think that payment will be delayed and will not be fair and adequate. In the circumstances, we would be setting a bad example, if the above just claim be not met promptly. I therefore request that the Government may be pleased to accord sanction for the payment of Rs. 4990/- to the Press-Karnataka Printers and Publishers Ltd., Mangalore towards the cost of cardboards, from the allotment under "56 Stationery and printing - e printing at Private Presses".

Sd.....
for Collector

17.3.50

/True Copy/

Copy of Ref. C.No. 21475/48 P1 dated 18-11-48, from the Collector of South Kanara, to the Superintendent Government Press, Madras.

Sub:- Rationing - Informal - South Kanara District - Re-introduction - Printing of ration cards through local press - Rates - Approval Requested.

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In its Ref.No. 134810/U/IV-48 (CS) dated 20-10-48, the Board ordered that permanent and temporary ration cards required for the re-introduction of informal rationing in the District should be got printed locally. With reference to Board's Ref.C.NO. 134116/44/48 dated 29-10-48 calling for the indent for card boards, I have already reported that in view of the urgency of the work, I had placed the order on a local press to print and supply 3 lakhs of permanent cards on cards and paper procured by the Press. It is to be observed that no reply or pulp boards were received from the Government

P.T.O.

Press to this office telegram dated 22-10-48. The Board has definitely stated that the informal rationing should be re-introduced not later than December 1948. Hence there was no time to lose or to wait for the receipt of pulp boards from the Government Press. I have in the circumstances placed the above order on the local press.

2. Among the presses consulted by me only one press "Karnataka Printers and Publishers Ltd., Mangalore agreed to undertake the work and to supply the cards on the dates prescribed. As no post-cards were available in the District, the pressed had to procure them from outside by deputing special representations. The Press has claimed at the rate of Rs. 20/- per thousand cards. In view of all the difficulties and the other incidental expenses met by the press in procuring the cards etc. I strongly recommend the rate for your approval. If however, we are not fair and reasonable to the press there will be none in the future who will be extending a supporting hand in moments of such dire urgency.

3. The Press has already supplied 60,000 cards and promises to supply the entire quota by 3-12-48. In these circumstances, I request to be informed whether I may ask the press to prepare the bill at this rate and send it on to you for approval. A specimen card is enclosed.

An urgent reply is requested.

(True Copy) SD... For Collr....

17.3.50

Copy of letter No. Comp/Mis. from the Government Press, Madras dated 23-11-48 to the Collector of South Kanara, Mangalore.

Sub:- Rationing - Informal - South Kanara District - Printing of ration cards.

Ref:- Your letter C.No. 21475/48 P1 dated 18-11-48.

Under the circumstances stated by you, there is no objection for entrusting the Ration cards to a local printer. But the paper required for this work should be obtained from the Superintendent of Stationery, Madras only.

In as much as you have permitted the printer to procure the blank cards from outside by deputing special representatives at his cost, the sanction of Government may be obtained for meeting the cost of cards from this office allotment under "56 Stationery and printing - e. Printing at private presses".

Sd.....
for Supdt.

17.3.50 /True Copy/

Copy of letter No. C.Mis. dated 21-7-49 from the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras to the Superintendent of Stationery, Madras.

Ref:- Your letter No. A.1. 13259/49 dated 17-6-49
Printing of Ration Cards - South Kanara District-Printing locally.

The quantity of Boards required for printing 3,00,000 ration cards including wastage is 87 gross and 97 sheets (22" x 28"). I suggest that the reasonable price at Rs. 24/- per gross may be allowed.

The specimen card is returned herewith.

Sd.....
for Superintendent

/True Copy/

17.3.50

Copy of letter No. I. 2291/47 dated 9-4-49 from the Superintendent of Stationery Madras to the Secretary, Board of Revenue (C.S.) Madras.

Sub:- Stationery - Card boards for printing ration cards - South Kanara district - Bill of local printer - payment of.
Ref:- Board's No. 134116/UIV/48 dated 16-3-49.

The Collector of South Kanara did not indent on this office for the card boards required for the printing of ration cards. The cost of white duplex boards 36 lbs 30" x 25" usually supplied by this office for the printing of ration cards is Rs. 24-5-0 per gross. The Superintendent, Government Press has stated that for printing 3 lakhs of cards i.e. the number ordered by the Collector, 75 gross and 130 numbers of cards of the size of 30" x 25" will be required.

The local printer's claim is for 90 gross of post cards at Rs. 45/- per gross and other incidental charges incurred by him for procuring the cards. The rate at which and the quantity for which the printer claims payment is far in excess of the rate and quantity at which the job could have been undertaken normally. Nevertheless the press can be re-imbursed by a supply of card boards from this office but the Press does not require them. The size and the quality of the card boards used by the printer is not mentioned in the correspondence sent by the Board. It is therefore suggested that payment may be made at a rate to be fixed by the Board proportionate to the size of the card board on the basis of the cost of the card boards supplied by this office mentioned above.

As regards incidental charges of packing, freight etc., the claim prima facie appears excessive compared with the cost of the material. But if proper vouchers are produced the claim may be allowed. The travelling expenses incurred by the printer for the procurement of card boards is obviously exorbitant and payment is not recommended. This should be met by the printer from his profit. Sales tax on the cost of the card boards to be actually paid may be allowed.

Sd.....
for SUPERINTENDENT OF STATIONERY.

17.3.50

/True copy/

Copy of letter Ref.C.No. 21475-48-P1 dated 3-3-50 from the Collector of South Kanara, Mangalore To the Secretary to the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Board of Revenue, Madras.

Sub:- Rationing - Informal - South Kanara District - Printing of ration cards - Cost of cardboards - Claim of local printers - Alleged fraud against Government - Report - Submitted.

Ref:- 1) This Office Ref.C.No. 21475-48-P1 dated 10-11-49.
2) Ref.C.No. 23648-C-49 dated 31-1-50 of Dt. Superintendent of Police, South Kanara.
3) Board's Ref.141853-U4-48 CS dated 3-2-1950.

I enclose herewith a copy of the report Ref. C.No. 23648-C-49 dated 31-1-50 of the Dt. Superintendent of Police, South Kanara and also a copy of the report dated 29-12-49 of the Inspector of Police, Mangalore, in the matter. The Dt. Superintendent of Police opines that as the investigation does not disclose any criminal offence on the part of the Press no action can be taken against them for the alleged fraud against the Government. The report of the investigating officer, however, shows that the cardboards required for printing 3,00,000 ration cards were purchased by the Press from the local merchants at Mangalore for Rs. 2,345-7-0. Hence the printers may be ordered to be paid only Rs- 2345-7-0 towards the cost of the cardboards.

Though the case may not stand in a Court of Law, the fact that he wanted to cheat the Government is clearly there. If this petition had not been filed, it was very probable that the Bill would have been passed. Therefore, it may be seen that the printer is a highly undesirable persons to be entrusted with Government work in future. I am instructing my office and subordinates not to entrust any Government work to the Printer in future. I request that the Government may also be pleased to pass an order directing that no Government work should be given to the Printer in future.

Sd.....
for Collector.

/True Copy/

V.R. 16-3. 17.3.50

Copy of letter Ref.C.No. 23648/C/49 dated 31-1-1950 from the Dt. Supdt. of Police, South Kanara, Mangalore to the Collector of South Kanara, Mangalore.

Sub: Rationing - Rural - Printing of cards by Karnataka Printers and Publishers, Mangalore - alleged fraud against Government.

Ref: Your Ref.C. No. 214875-49-P1 dated 10-11-49, 6-12-49 and 10-1-50 and this Office C.No. 23648/C/49 dated 16-1-50.

Investigation in connection with your reference cited, does not disclose any criminal offence on the part of the Press and no action can be taken for the alleged fraud referred to by you.

2. A copy of the report dated 29-12-49 by the Inspector of Police, Mangalore, is enclosed herewith for your information.

Sd.....
Dt. Supdt. of Police, S.Kanara.

17.3.50.

/True Copy/

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Copy of the report dated 29-12-49 by the Inspector of Police, Mangalore.

Ref. C.No. 1830/SB-12-49 dated 16-11-49 and Reminder dated 23-12-49 and Cr.No.B1.268/49 (section.420 I.P.C.)

Sub: Copy of petition dated 29-10-49 from Dayananda Shenoy.

Ref.C.No. 1830/SB-12/49 dated 16-11-49 received through Dy. Supdt. of Police, was registered as G.No. 268/49 (Sec.420 I.P.C.) of Mangalore North Station and hence the original reference has been sent to Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Mangalore. But the true copy of it is the F.I.R. in the case and the C.D. file is enclosed for perusal.

The petition was against the Karnatak Printers and Publishers Ltd., Mangalore by one of its ex-Secretaries. The allegation was that the said Press claimed exhorbitant charges amounting to a total of Rs. 6090-0-0 for printing three lakhs of ration cards in 1948.

Which according to the petition the actual cost could be only about Rs. 2,500/- less than the amount claimed. It is also alleged in the petition that the press tried to justify this exhorbitant claim by reprinting that the necessary cards had to be purchased from Madras, Bombay and other places which actually the paper for the cards were got only locally.

Investigation disclosed that it was a fact that cards were purchased locally for Rs. 2,345/7/- while the bill sent by the Press for cards alone is Rs. 4,050/-

Apart from the fact that this claim has been exhorbitant, the investigation did not disclose any criminal liability on the part of the Press. The full amount claimed by the Press has not been paid by the Government. Only the printing charges i.e. Rs. 1,200/- has been given so far and hence there was not any cheatin

Hence no further action by the Police is called for in the matter. As the quotation of the Press are exhorbitant, the Superintendent of Stationery, Government of Madras, may fix the reasonable amount to be paid to the Press.

Details of the case are in the C.D. file which is herewith enclosed.

Sd.....
Inspector of Police, Mangalore.

for Collector.

/True Copy/

V.A. 17-3.

19.3.50.

Food & Agri (B)

Subj: Rationing - Rural - South Kanara Dr. - Printing of ration cards by the Local Press - Cost of Cardboards - Sanctioned.

Ref: From the Bd of Revenue (CS) Ref 141853-V4/48 (CS) dt 15-3-50

G.O MS no 696 dt 10-4-50

Sanction is accorded to the payment of a sum of Rs 2137-1-0 (Rupees Two thousand one hundred and thirty seven and anna one only) to The Karnataka Printers and Publishers Ltd., Mangalore in full settlement of the value ~~towards the Expenditure incurred by it for the purchase~~ of the card boards used by them ~~of South Kanara~~ for printing the ration cards. ~~locally for the rural areas of the Districts~~

2. The Expenditure should be debited to "56- Stationary and Printing. e- Printing at Private Presses".

Gov 20.3.50

Dy Secy

Fin

Ad

WD 22/3/50

mas 28/3/50

To The Board of Revenue (CS)
The Collector of South Kanara
The Accountant General with a copy of this finance (2 copies) Dis. Dy. No. 1-9 Cy.
The Superintendent Govt Press
The Stock of Stationary
The Bd of Revenue (Accts Branch)
m/s S.F.

Dy 18/4/50

O.N.

Please see the Board's rep on pp 1-2 c/f and its enclosures on pp 3-7 c/f. In the circumstances reported by the Board of Revenue (CS), the Expenditure incurred ~~by the Collector of South Kanara~~ for the purchase of card boards locally for printing the usual ration cards may be sanctioned. Subject to orders a draft order is enclosed. Fin" and finance may see before

Gov 20/3/50

Dy Secy

Fin

Ad

WD 21/3/50

mas 28/3/50

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
25 MAR 1950
4506
EDUCATION

Addl c no 8734 50/50

Edn/E.

In ~~view~~ the circumstances stated in para. 5 on p. 2 cr. the draft order overleaf may be accepted and the file passed on to Fin.

27/3/50

28/3/50

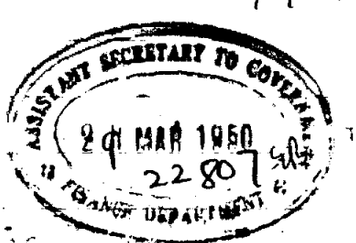
26/3/50

Fin.

Edn. W. 4506 EJ.
28/3/50

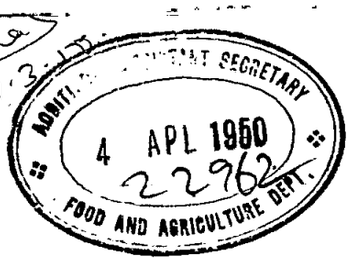
Fin (Exp B)

The Board's reference on pp 1-2 CF may be perused. In ~~view of the reasons~~ the circumstances stated in para 5 on p2CF the draft order overleaf may be accepted and the case returned to F&A.



30-3-50

28.3.50



1/4/50

F. & A.

Fin. W 22807 EB/50.
1/4/50.

To AS

F & A (B)

Draft order overleaf may issue.

Supdt.

Asstt